

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6635

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OSCI EAID EG

SUBJ: MEETING OF SCIENTIFIC AND JOINT TECHNOLOGY

WORKING GROUP IN CAIRO

REF: CAIRO 4909 AND 5945

1. WE NOTE FROM JOINT US/EGYPTIAN COMMUNIQUE THAT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP WILL MEET IN CAIRO ON OCTOBER 6. SINCE THIS IS ANNIVERSARY OF WHAT EGYPT REGARDS AS MILITARY VICTORY AGAINST ISRAEL, OCTOBER 6 LIKELY BE A HOLIDAY AND WE DOUBT JWG WILL CONVENE ON THAT DATE. HOWEVER, WHETHER IT MEETS OCTOBER 6 OR DAY LATER, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF THE REPRESENTATION WHICH WILL BE COMING FOR THE MEETING AND OF THE SPECIFIC TOPICS WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED. ORDER COPE WITH TIGHT HOTEL SITUATION, WE WILL NEED ACTUAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS NOT LATER THAN SEPT 6.

2. WE CONSIDER THAT THE CURRENT PL 480 SFCF PROGRAMS, NOW NUMBERING CLOSE TO 200 INDIVIDUAL JOINT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH EFFORTS, WILL CONSTITUTE THE NUCLEUS

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AROUND WHICH A PROGRAM OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL

COOPERATION WILL BE BUILT. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE NEW INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT DEVELOP A MORE OR LESS ROUTINE MECHANISM FOR THE PROPOSITION AND APPROVAL OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROJECTS AS PROPOSED IN CAIRO 5945 AND CAIRO 4909. IN CONSTITUTING SUCH AN AGREEMENT WE SHOULD TAKE CARE TO ENCOURAGE COORDINATION ALONG THE WIDE DIVERSITY OF EGYPTIAN INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN RESEARCH TO AVOID A CURRENT TENDENCY TOWARD WASTEFUL DUPLICATION.

3. IF POSSIBLE, WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE INCLUSION THE US SIDE OF THE JWG REPRESENTATIVES FROM PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND LARGER UNIVERSITIES AS A MEANS OF BROADENING PARTICIPATION AND HOPEFULLY AS SOURCES OF HARD CURRENCY.

4. US DELEGATION SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, AS WE SEE IT, MAJOR OBSTACLE FACING EGYPTIAN SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IS THE LACK OF ADEUATE EQUIPMENT. ALLEVIATION OF THIS SITUATION WILL LIKELY BE A MAJOR ELEMENT INTHE EGYPTIAN SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY'S EXPECTATIONS FOR THE JWG MEETING.

5. WE ASSUME THAT DRAFT OF AGREEMENT IS BEING PREPARED IN WASHINGTON. IF SO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW IT PRIOR TO JWG ARRIVAL.
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